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REPLY UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.116
EXPEDITED PROCEDURE
EXAMINING GROUP 2182
PATENT
APPLICATION 10/622,259
ATTORNEY DOCKET 2002P20760US01 (1009-029)

AMENDMENTS

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1.   (Currently Amended) A system comprising:

a cellular telephone modem; and

a programmable cable comprising a first end connectable to a programmable logic controller (PLC) and a second end connectable to said cellular telephone modem, said programmable cable adapted to communicatively couple said PLC and said cellular telephone modem;

said programmable cable adapted to store a plurality of configuration parameters and a PIN number, the plurality of configuration parameters comprising a mode switch parameter adapted to cause a mode switch of said programmable cable to select between a Freeport mode and a PPI mode, said mode switch distinct from said PLC, a memory of said programmable cable distinct from said PLC;

said programmable cable adapted to, in an operative embodiment, automatically configure said cellular telephone modem by communicating at least one of the configuration parameters and the PIN number to said cellular telephone modem.

2.   (Currently Amended) A device comprising:

a programmable cable comprising a first end connectable to and communicable with a programmable logic controller (PLC) and a second end connectable to a network communications device, said programmable cable adapted to communicatively couple said PLC and said network communications device, the network communications device further couplable to a user interface device;

said programmable cable adapted to store at least one of a plurality of configuration parameters, the plurality of configuration parameters comprising a mode switch parameter adapted to cause a mode switch of said programmable cable to select between a Freeport mode and a PPI mode, said mode switch distinct from said PLC, a memory of said programmable cable

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distinct from said PLC;

     in an operative embodiment, said programmable cable adapted to automatically configure the network communications device by communicating the at least one of the plurality of configuration parameters and a PIN number to the network communications device.

3.   (Previously Presented) The device of claim 2, wherein the network communications device is a cellular telephone modem.

4.   (Previously Presented) The device of claim 2, wherein the network communications device is a telephone modem.

5.   (Previously Presented) The device of claim 2, wherein the configuration parameters further comprise a setup string for the network communications device.

6.   (Previously Presented) The device of claim 2, wherein the network communications device is couplable to the user interface device via a network.

7.   (Previously Presented) The device of claim 2, wherein the network communications device is couplable to the user interface device via a cellular network.

8.   (Previously Presented) The device of claim 2, wherein the network communications device is couplable to the user interface device via the Internet.

9.   (Currently Amended) A device comprising:

     a programmable cable comprising, a first end connectable to a network couplable to a programmable logic controller (PLC), and a second end connectable to a network communications device; the network communications device further couplable to a user interface device, the PLC communicable with said user interface device using said programmable cable;

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and

said programmable cable programmable to store at least one of a plurality of configuration parameters comprising: a mode switch parameter adapted to cause a mode switch of said programmable cable to select between a Freeport mode and a PPI mode, said mode switch distinct from said PLC, a memory of said programmable cable distinct from said PLC.

10.   (Original) The device of claim 9, wherein said programmable cable further adapted to, in an operative configuration, serve as a token holding master on the network adapted to multiplex networked communications with the PLC.

11.   (Previously Presented) The device of claim 9, wherein in an operative embodiment, said programmable cable adapted to automatically configure the network communications device by communicating at least one of the plurality of configuration parameters to the network communications device.

12.   (Original) The device of claim 9, wherein said second end of said programmable cable comprises an RS232 network connector.

13.   (Original) The device of claim 9, wherein said second end of said programmable cable comprises a USB network connector.

14.   (Currently Amended) A method comprising the activities of:
providing a programmable cable comprising a first end and a second end, the first end connectable to a programmable logic controller (PLC), the second end connectable to a cellular telephone modem, a user interface device couplable to a network comprising the programmable cable, the PLC, and the cellular telephone modem, said programmable cable adapted to communicatively couple said PLC and said cellular telephone modem, said programmable cable adapted to store a plurality of configuration parameters, the plurality of configuration parameters

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comprising a mode switch parameter adapted to cause a mode switch of said programmable cable to select between a Freeport mode and a PPI mode, said mode switch distinct from said PLC, a memory of said programmable cable distinct from said PLC; and

automatically configuring the cellular telephone modem by the programmable cable.

15.   (Original) The method of claim 14, wherein said automatically configuring activity occurs during a power-cycling of the programmable cable.

16.   (Original) The method of claim 14, wherein said automatically configuring activity occurs after power-cycling the programmable cable.

17.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 14, further comprising automatically communicating, from the programmable cable to a network communications device, at least one of the plurality of configuration parameters.

18.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 14, further comprising:
via the user interface device through the network, setting at least one of the plurality of programmable cable configuration parameters comprising: a mode of operation, a PPI protocol, a cable locality mode, a data transfer speed, a communication language, and an identifying PIN number.

19.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 14, further comprising initializing the programmable cable using the user interface device through the network by setting at least one of the plurality of configuration parameters comprising a network communications device setup string and a PIN number.

20.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 14, further comprising initializing the programmable cable by setting at least one of the plurality of configuration parameters comprising a network communications device setup string and a PIN number.

21.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 14, further comprising initializing the programmable cable by setting at least one of the plurality of configuration parameters comprising a PIN number.

22.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 14, wherein said activity of automatically configuring the cellular telephone modem by the programmable cable further comprises communicating at least one of the plurality of configuration parameters, comprising cellular telephone modem setup string and a PIN number, to the cellular telephone modem.

23.   (Original) The method of claim 14, further comprising encrypting communications between the user interface device and the PLC.

24.   (Original) The method of claim 14, further comprising encrypting communications between the programmable cable and the PLC.

25.   (Original) The method of claim 14, further comprising encrypting communications between the programmable cable and the user interface device.

26.   (Currently Amended) A method comprising the activities of:
        providing a programmable cable comprising a first end operatively connectable to a
network and a second end operatively connectable to a network communications device, a user
interface device operatively couplable to ~~a~~said network comprising the programmable cable, a
programmable logic controller (PLC), and the network communications device; and

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automatically communicating from the programmable cable to the network communications device a PIN number and at least one of a plurality of configuration parameters, the plurality of configuration parameters comprising a mode switch parameter adapted to cause a mode switch of said programmable cable to select between a Freeport mode and a PPI mode, said mode switch distinct from said PLC, a memory of said programmable cable distinct from said PLC.

27. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 26, further comprising initializing the programmable cable using the user interface device through the network by setting the at least one of the plurality of configuration parameters further comprising: a mode of operation, a PPI protocol, a cable locality mode, a data transfer speed, and a communication language.

28. (Original) The method of claim 26, wherein the configuration parameters communicated to the network communications device further comprise a network communications device setup string.

29. (Original) The method of claim 26, further comprising monitoring data traffic through the programmable cable using a set of status indicators.

30. (Original) The method of claim 26, further comprising encrypting communications between the user interface device and the PLC.

31. (Original) The method of claim 26, further comprising encrypting communications between the programmable cable and the PLC.

32. (Original) The method of claim 26, further comprising encrypting communications between the programmable cable and the user interface device.